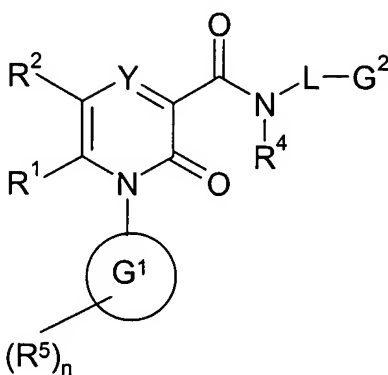


IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (**currently amended**): A compound of formula (I)



(I)

wherein:

Y represents CR^3 or N ;

R^1 represents H or C1 to 6 alkyl;

R^2 represents phenyl or a five- or six-membered heteroaromatic ring containing 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from O, S and N; said aromatic ring being optionally substituted by 1 to 3 substituents selected independently from OH, halogen, C1 to 6 alkyl, C1 to 6 alkoxy, $NR^{58}COR^{50}$, $COOR^{51}$, COR^{52} , $CONR^{53}R^{54}$ and $NR^{47}R^{48}$; said alkyl being optionally further substituted by OH, C1 to 6 alkoxy, CN or CO_2R^{49} ;

R^{47} and R^{48} independently represent H, C1 to 6 alkyl or C2 to 6 alkanoyl;

R^3 represents H or F;

G^1 represents phenyl or a five- or six-membered heteroaromatic ring containing 1 to 3 heteroatoms independently selected from O, S and N;

R^5 represents H, halogen, C1 to 6 alkyl, CN, C1 to 6 alkoxy, NO_2 , $NR^{14}R^{15}$, C1 to 3 alkyl substituted by one or more F atoms or C1 to 3 alkoxy substituted by one or more F atoms;

R^{14} and R^{15} independently represent H or C1 to 3 alkyl; said alkyl being optionally further substituted by one or more F atoms;

n represents an integer 1, 2 or 3 and when n represents 2 or 3, each R^5 group is selected independently;

R^4 represents H or C1 to 6 alkyl; said alkyl being optionally further substituted by OH or C1 to 6 alkoxy;

or R^4 and L are joined together such that the group $-NR^4L$ represents a 5 to 7 membered azacyclic ring optionally incorporating one further heteroatom selected from O, S and NR^{16} ;

L represents a bond, O, $S(O)_p$, NR^{29} or C1 to 6 alkyl; said alkyl optionally incorporating a heteroatom selected from O, S and NR^{16} ; and said alkyl being optionally further substituted by OH or OMe;

G^2 represents a monocyclic ring system selected from:

- i) phenyl or phenoxy,
- ii) a 5 or 6 membered heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from O, S and N,
- iii) a C3 to 6 saturated or partially unsaturated cycloalkyl, or
- iv) a C4 to 7 saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from O, $S(O)_p$ and NR^{17} and optionally further incorporating a carbonyl group; or

G^2 represents a bicyclic ring system in which each of the two rings is independently selected from:

- i) phenyl,
- ii) a 5 or 6 membered heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from O, S and N,
- iii) a C3 to 6 saturated or partially unsaturated cycloalkyl, or
- iv) a C4 to 7 saturated or partially unsaturated heterocyclic ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from O, $S(O)_p$ and NR^{17} and optionally further incorporating a carbonyl group;

and the two rings are either fused together, or are bonded directly together or are separated by a linker group selected from O, $S(O)_q$ or CH_2 ,

said monocyclic or bicyclic ring system being optionally further substituted by one to three substituents independently selected from CN, OH, C1 to 6 alkyl, C1 to 6 alkoxy, halogen, $\text{NR}^{18}\text{R}^{19}$, NO_2 , $\text{OSO}_2\text{R}^{38}$, CO_2R^{20} , $\text{C}(=\text{NH})\text{NH}_2$, $\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}^{21}\text{R}^{22}$, $\text{C}(\text{S})\text{NR}^{23}\text{R}^{24}$, $\text{SC}(=\text{NH})\text{NH}_2$, $\text{NR}^{31}\text{C}(=\text{NH})\text{NH}_2$, $\text{S}(\text{O})_s\text{R}^{25}$, $\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^{26}\text{R}^{27}$, C1 to 3 alkoxy substituted by one or more F atoms and C1 to 3 alkyl substituted by SO_2R^{39} , $\text{NR}^{56}\text{R}^{57}$ or by one or more F atoms;

or when L does not represent ~~an~~ a bond, G^2 may also represent H;

~~At~~ at each occurrence, p, q, s and t independently represent an integer 0, 1 or 2;

R^{18} and R^{19} independently represent H, C1 to 6 alkyl, formyl, C2 to 6 alkanoyl, $\text{S}(\text{O})_t\text{R}^{32}$ or $\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^{33}\text{R}^{34}$; said alkyl group being optionally further substituted by halogen, CN, C1 to 4 alkoxy or $\text{CONR}^{41}\text{R}^{42}$;

R^{25} represents H, C1 to 6 alkyl or C3 to 6 cycloalkyl; said alkyl group being optionally further substituted by one or more substituents selected independently from OH, CN, $\text{CONR}^{35}\text{R}^{36}$, CO_2R^{37} , OCOR^{40} , C3 to 6 cycloalkyl, a C4 to 7 saturated heterocyclic ring containing one or two heteroatoms independently selected from O, $\text{S}(\text{O})_p$ and NR^{43} and phenyl or a 5 or 6 membered heteroaromatic ring containing one to three heteroatoms independently selected from O, S and N; said aromatic ring being optionally further substituted by one or more substituents selected independently from halogen, CN, C1 to 4 alkyl, C1 to 4 alkoxy, OH, $\text{CONR}^{44}\text{R}^{45}$, CO_2R^{46} , $\text{S}(\text{O})_s\text{R}^{55}$ and NHCOCH_3 ;

R^{32} represents H, C1 to 6 alkyl or C3 to 6 cycloalkyl;

R^{16} , R^{17} , R^{20} , R^{21} , R^{22} , R^{23} , R^{24} , R^{26} , R^{27} , R^{29} , R^{31} , R^{33} , R^{34} , R^{35} , R^{36} , R^{37} , R^{38} , R^{39} , R^{40} , R^{41} , R^{42} , R^{43} , R^{44} , R^{45} , R^{46} , R^{49} , R^{50} , R^{51} , R^{52} , R^{53} , R^{54} , R^{55} , R^{56} , R^{57} and R^{58} independently represent H or C1 to 6 alkyl;

~~and~~ or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt-salts thereof.

Claim 2 (original): A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 1, wherein Y represents CR^3 .

Claim 3 (currently amended): A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 1 ~~or~~ Claim 2, wherein G^1 represents phenyl.

Claim 4 (**currently amended**): A compound of formula (I), according to Claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 to 3~~, wherein R⁵ represents Cl, CH₃, CN or CF₃.

Claim 5 (**cancelled**).

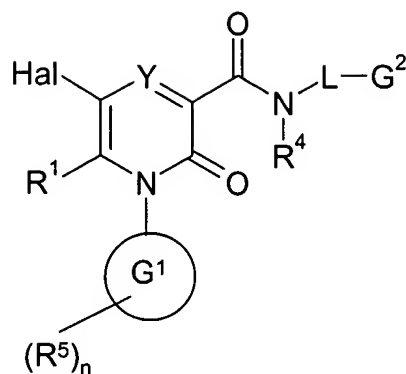
Claim 6 (**currently amended**): A pharmaceutical formulation comprising a compound of formula (I), as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 4, 11 and 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, ~~optionally~~ in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier.

Claim 7 (**currently amended**): A method of treating, or reducing the risk of, a human disease or condition in which inhibition of neutrophil elastase activity is beneficial which comprises administering to a person suffering from or susceptible to such a disease or condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 4, 11 and 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 8-9 (**cancelled**).

Claim 10 (**currently amended**): A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I), as defined in Claim 1 ~~any one of Claims 1 to 4~~, and optical isomers, racemates and tautomers thereof and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof, which comprises:

a) reacting a compound of formula (II)

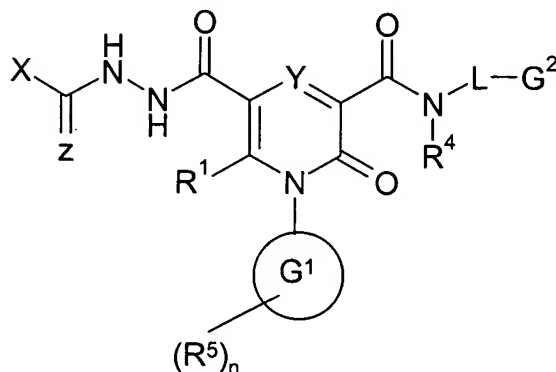


(II)

wherein R^1 , R^4 , R^5 , Y , G^1 , G^2 , L and n are as defined in formula (I) and Hal represents a halogen atom, preferably bromo or iodo;

with a nucleophile R^2-M wherein R^2 is as defined in formula (I) and M represents an organotin or organo boronic acid group; or

- b) when R^2 represents a 1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl or a 1,3,4-thiadiazol-2-yl ring, reacting a compound of formula (III)

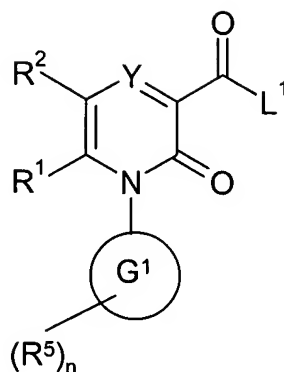


(III)

wherein R^1 , R^4 , R^5 , Y , G^1 , G^2 , L and n are as defined in formula (I), Z represents O or S and X represents C1 to 6 alkyl or $NR^{47}R^{48}$ and R^{47} and R^{48} are as defined in formula (I);

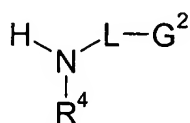
with a suitable dehydrating agent such as phosphoryl chloride or trimethylsilyl polyphosphate; or

c) reacting a compound of formula (XV)



(XV)

wherein R¹, R², R⁵, n, G¹ and Y are as defined in formula (I) and L¹ represents a leaving group, with a compound of formula (IX) or a salt thereof



(IX)

wherein R⁴, G² and L are as defined in formula (I);

and optionally where desired or necessary converting the resultant compound of formula (I), or another salt thereof, into a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof; or converting one compound of formula (I) into another compound of formula (I); and optionally where desired converting the resultant compound of formula (I) into an optical isomer thereof.

Claim 11 (**new**): A compound of formula (I), according to claim 1, wherein R² represents an optionally substituted five-membered heteroaromatic ring containing 1 to 4 heteroatoms independently selected from O, S and N.

Claim 12 (**new**): A compound of formula (I), according to claim 1, selected from:

5-(3,5-Dimethyl-isoxazol-4-yl)-6-methyl-2-oxo-1-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-1,2-dihydro-pyridine-3-carboxylic acid 4-methanesulfonyl-benzylamide;
6-Methyl-2-oxo-5-(5-propyl-[1,3,4]oxadiazol-2-yl)-1-(3-trifluoromethyl-phenyl)-1,2-dihydro-pyridine-3-carboxylic acid 4-methanesulfonyl-benzylamide;
6-Methyl-5-(3-methylisoxazol-5-yl)-*N*-[4-(methylsulfonyl)benzyl]-2-oxo-1-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-1,2-dihydropyridine-3-carboxamide;
5-(3,5-Dimethylisoxazol-4-yl)-*N*-[4-(isopropylsulfonyl)benzyl]-6-methyl-2-oxo-1-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-1,2-dihydropyridine-3-carboxamide;
N-[4-(Cyclopropylsulfonyl)benzyl]-5-(3,5-dimethylisoxazol-4-yl)-6-methyl-2-oxo-1-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-1,2-dihydropyridine-3-carboxamide;
1-(3-Chlorophenyl)-5-(3,5-dimethyl-isoxazol-4-yl)-6-methyl-2-oxo-1,2-dihydro-pyridine-3-carboxylic acid 4-methanesulfonyl-benzylamide;
N-[4-(Cyclopropylsulfonyl)benzyl]-6-methyl-5-(5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)-2-oxo-1-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-1,2-dihydropyridine-3-carboxamide;
6-Methyl-5-(1-methyl-1H-pyrazol-5-yl)-*N*-{[5-(methylsulfonyl)pyridin-2-yl]methyl}-2-oxo-1-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-1,2-dihydropyridine-3-carboxamide; and
5-(3,5-Dimethylisoxazol-4-yl)-6-methyl-*N*-{[5-(methylsulfonyl)pyridin-2-yl]methyl}-2-oxo-1-[3-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-1,2-dihydropyridine-3-carboxamide;
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 13 (**new**): A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of an inflammatory disease or condition which comprises administering to a person suffering from or susceptible to such a disease or condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 4, 11 and 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

Claim 14 (**new**): A method for the treatment or prophylaxis of an of a disease or condition selected from adult respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS), cystic fibrosis, pulmonary emphysema, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), pulmonary hypertension, asthma, rhinitis, ischemia-reperfusion injury, rheumatoid arthritis, osteoarthritis, cancer, atherosclerosis and gastric mucosal injury, which method comprises administering to a person suffering from or

susceptible to such a disease or condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of formula (I), as defined in any one of Claims 1 to 4, 11 and 12, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.